



# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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## ASSESSING PROGRESS OF NATIONAL PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF CHRONIC DISEASES

### OBJECTIVES, TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

#### OBJECTIVES

This survey aims at assessing the current national capacity in health policy, strategy, action plan and programmes for prevention and control of chronic diseases, in order to:

1. Assess progress of national chronic diseases prevention and control;
2. Share information, experiences and best practices;
3. Identify constraints and needs;
4. Assist in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policy, strategy and action plan in countries.

#### TERMS

In order to assure standardization in responding to the questionnaire, it is essential that the respondent reviews the following terms and definitions before attempting to complete the questionnaire:

#### CHRONIC DISEASES (NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES)

In this questionnaire, the terms “chronic diseases” and “noncommunicable diseases” are considered synonymous. This questionnaire primarily focuses on four prominent chronic diseases, which are given a high priority by the WHO/PAHO Strategies for Noncommunicable Diseases Prevention and Control. These four diseases are, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases. Cardiovascular disease include heart disease and stroke (cerebrovascular accidents); cancer includes malignant tumors of organs such as brain, lung, prostate, breast, cervix, stomach but also leukaemias and lymphomas; diabetes refers to diabetes mellitus; and chronic respiratory diseases includes chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma.

#### CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (CDPC)

For the purpose of this questionnaire, CDPC includes all activities related to surveillance, prevention and management of the four chronic diseases mentioned above.

#### RISK FACTORS

Refers to the major risk factors common to the four chronic diseases namely: tobacco use, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, alcohol consumption, elevated blood pressure and blood glucose, overweight and obesity, and dyslipidaemia.

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## COPIES OF DOCUMENTS

Copies of strategies, policies, action plans and guidelines can be in local languages but please provide an abstract in English, if another language is used. Please provide links to the website(s) where the documents are located and attach electronic files (Word, PDF, etc), or provide hard copies. Effective year refers to year that policy, legislation or thing in question takes effect..

## RESPONDENT GROUP

If information for different sections of the questionnaire is managed by a different person or different ministries in countries, **it is advised to convene the people responsible in order to prepare the response.**

## DEFINITIONS

### 1. National Focal Point, Unit/Department, Institute:

- i. **National focal point:** refers to the person responsible for prevention and control of chronic diseases in Ministries of Health (MsOH), in a national public health institute or chronic disease prevention and control institute, or in the office of the Prime Minister or President;
- ii. **Unit or department:** refers to a unit or department in MsOH for disease prevention and control or prevention and control of chronic diseases;
- iii. **Institute:** refers to a national public health institute or chronic disease prevention and control institute.

### 2. National Act, Law, Legislation, Ministerial Decree:

- i. Refers to nationally approved acts, laws, legislation, ministerial decrees targeting prevention and control of chronic diseases and risk factors; or prevention and control of chronic diseases or related risk factors as part of legislations concerned.
- ii. **Tobacco legislation:** This deals with legal provisions for tobacco control including information on health hazards from different tobacco products, passive smoking, protection of children, and different laws for tobacco prevention, cessation, taxation, and distribution of tax revenues.
- iii. **Food and nutrition legislation:** Deals with legal provisions for food and nutrition, including manufacturing, labelling, quality assurance standards, food protection regulation, etc. In this questionnaire, the food and/or nutrition legislation is related to chronic diseases prevention and control, or chronic diseases prevention and control is part of its concerns.

### 3. National Policy, Strategy, Action Plan/Programme:

- i. **Strategy:** Refers to the national strategy that includes a long term plan of action designed to achieve the goal of prevention and control of chronic diseases.
- ii. **Policy:** In the context of the Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, policy means consensus among relevant partners on issues to be addressed and on approaches or strategies to be used in doing so. Therefore, a national policy for chronic disease prevention and control refers to a written document endorsed, in collaboration with related sectors, by the country's Ministry of Health (MOH), which includes a set of statements and

decisions defining goals, priorities and main directions for attaining these goals. The policy document may also include a strategy containing main lines of action that are adopted to give effect to the policy.

- iii. **National integrated action plan (NIAP):** Refers to the countries core public health principles incorporated into country action plan for chronic diseases prevention and control through a concerted approach to addressing the multidisciplinary range of issues within a prevention and health promotion framework across the broad range of chronic diseases. NIAP targets all major common risk factors common to main chronic diseases, and integrates primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, health promotion and disease prevention, and programmes across sectors and disciplines through, rather than rely on, a disjointed set of small scale projects through a set of actions, harmonizing actions, integrating actions with existing public health systems by incorporating contemporary evidence-based concepts into this approach.
- iv. **National action plan:** This is a scheme, prepared according to policy and strategic directions, and defining activities, to generate products/targets set to achieve the desired goals. The plan should identify who does what (type of activities and people responsible for implementation), when (time frame), how and for how much (resource). It should ideally have an inherent mechanism for monitoring and evaluation.
- v. **National programmes:** Refers to the understanding of the national overall goal and objectives within the framework of national chronic disease prevention and control, translate these into programme goals and objectives that are consistent with the intervention strategies and from these develop a blueprint of how the intervention activities will operate and evaluate the results.
- vi. **Capacity:** The ability to perform appropriate tasks effectively, efficiently and sustainably (at national level)

#### 4. National Target:

Refers to setting of quantitative output, impact, outcomes or health indicators for chronic diseases prevention and control (or risk factors such as tobacco use, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, and health determinants such as environment, lifestyles, socio-economics etc).

#### 5. National health reporting system, survey and surveillance:

- i **Annual health reporting system:** This includes the annual health reports of the MOH, containing data on national capacity, human resources, demographic data, health expenditure, health indicators. Morbidity information many include incidence or prevalence data from disease registries, hospital admission or discharge data.
- ii **National survey:** Refers to national fixed or unfixed time interval survey on the main chronic diseases, or major risk factors common to chronic diseases.
- iii **Surveillance:** Refers to information on risk factors, chronic diseases and their determinants, which is a continuous analysis, interpretation and feed-back of systematically-collected data using survey or regular registration.

**6. National community-based demonstration programmes for chronic disease prevention and/or health promotion:**

Refers to national community-based demonstration programmes that address issues relevant to chronic disease prevention and major risk factors; apply existing knowledge to practice effective prevention at community level; examine different methods of disease prevention and health promotion; evaluate their feasibility; and validate their effect and how they can be a source of public and professional inspiration. Large or national programmes based on experience of the demonstration areas can be launched.

**7. Implementation of FCTC and DPAS:**

Refers to the national action plan or work plan for implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) adopted by WHA 56 in May 2003, and the Global Strategy for Diet, Physical Activity and Health (DPAS) endorsed by WHA 57 in May 2004.

**8. National Protocols/Guidelines/Standards for Chronic Diseases and Conditions:**

Refers to prevention, treatment or management services that deal with an already existing chronic disease or risk factors aiming to treat and control the condition, prevent complications, improve outcomes and quality of life of patients.

**9. Quality of Care Monitoring System**

Refers to the monitoring systems, the indicators and improvement strategies regarded to the management of chronic disease.

**10. Financial Resources**

Refers to specific chronic disease prevention or risk factors intervention and budget allocation for prevention and control in any of the chronic diseases components and the source of financial support for chronic diseases prevention and control.

**11. Services/Procedures**

Refers to levels of care and their essential equipment, procedures, medicines and human resources that deal with the management and control of chronic disease.